

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Claims 1-30. (canceled)

Claim 31. (previously presented) A high performance tyre, comprising:

a carcass provided with at least one carcass ply;

a belt comprising two or more layers of reinforcing cords parallel to each other in a layer and crossed with respect to those of an adjacent layer, applied circumferentially on the carcass;

a radially-external layer of circumferentially-oriented reinforcing cords applied on the belt; and

a tread band comprising an underlayer and an external layer;

wherein the underlayer is made from an elastomer compound comprising reinforcing fibers and hardening resins; and

wherein a hardness of the underlayer does not vary by more than 5 International Rubber Hardness Degrees (IRHD) over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim 32. (previously presented) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer does not vary or varies by less than 5 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim 33. (previously presented) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer does not vary by more than 1 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim 34. (previously presented) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer is greater than 80 IRHD at 100°C.

Claim 35. (previously presented) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the hardness of the underlayer is greater than 85 IRHD at 100°C.

Claim 36. (canceled)

Claim 37. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 31, wherein the underlayer has a dynamic elastic modulus (E') ~~of the underlayer that~~ does not vary by more than 10% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

Claim 38. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 37, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer does not vary by more than 5% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

Claim 39. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~[[36]]~~ 37, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer is greater than 15 MPa at 100°C.

Claim 40. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 39, wherein the elastic modulus of the underlayer is greater than 20 MPa at 100°C.

Claim 41. (canceled)

Claim 42. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the underlayer has a ratio between a 10% elongation load in a circumferential direction and a 10% elongation load in a ~~transverse~~ perpendicular direction which is greater than 3:1.

Claim 43. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the hardening resins are based on components chosen from among one or more of the following groups: resorcinol-methylene donors, epoxides-dicarboxylic acids, epoxides-diamines, epoxides-polyols, and alcohol-diacids.

Claim 44. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 43, wherein the methylene donors are hexamethoxymethylmelamine (HMMM) or hexamethylenetetramine (HMT).

Claim 45. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the ~~underlayer comprises a hardening resin~~ hardening resins are resins based on resorcinol and methylene donors in precondensed form in a quantity greater than 0.5 phr.

Claim 46. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the ~~elastomer compound comprises a hardening resin~~ hardening resins are resins based on

resorcinol and methylene donors in a form of two components, wherein a quantity of resorcinol is greater than 0.5 phr, and wherein a ratio of a quantity of methylene donors to the quantity of resorcinol is between 0.5:1 and 3:1.

Claim 47. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the reinforcing fibers are chosen from among: polyamides, polyesters, polyolefins, carbon fibers, glass fibers, and polyvinyl alcohol.

Claim 48. (withdrawn) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the reinforcing fibers are aramid fibers.

Claim 49. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 48, wherein the ~~elastomer compound comprises~~ reinforcing fibers are a quantity of aramid fibers ranging between 3 phr and 10 phr.

Claim 50. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 49, wherein the ~~elastomer compound comprises~~ reinforcing fibers are a quantity of aramid fibers ranging between 6 phr and 9 phr.

Claim 51. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 31, wherein the underlayer has a uniform thickness greater than 1 mm.

Claim 52. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim 51, wherein the underlayer has a uniform thickness between 1.5 mm and 2 mm.

Claim 53. (withdrawn, currently amended) The tyre of claim ~~[[51]]~~ 31, wherein the thickness of the underlayer is variable.

Claims 54-56. (canceled)

Claim 57. (withdrawn, currently amended) The method of claim 58, wherein the thermostable compound has ~~[[an]]~~ a dynamic elastic modulus (E') which ~~is substantially constant~~ does not vary by more than 10% over a temperature range between 70°C and 100°C.

Claim 58. (previously presented) A method for improving behaviour at high speeds of a high-performance tyre, the tyre comprising:

a carcass provided with at least one carcass ply;

a belt comprising two or more layers of reinforcing cords parallel to each other in a layer and crossed with respect to those of an adjacent layer, applied circumferentially on the carcass; and

a radially-external layer of circumferentially-oriented reinforcing cords applied on the belt;

the method comprising:

mounting on a periphery of the radially-external layer a tread band comprising an underlayer and an external layer;

wherein the underlayer comprises a thermostable compound comprising reinforcing fibers and hardening resins, and

wherein a hardness of the thermostable compound does not vary by more than 5 IRHD over a temperature range between 23°C and 100°C.

Claim 59. (withdrawn) The method of claim 58, wherein the tread band is obtained by coextruding the underlayer and the external layer.

Claim 60. (withdrawn) The method of claim 58, wherein the underlayer is obtained by calendering.